

Preparation of a catalogue of Type 1 cases in Britain

Dear Sir,—As readers will recall, in their study of Iberian type 1 reports 9 (published in the FSR Special Issue No. 4) Dr. Vallée and Sr. Ballester deplored the lack of studies of Type 1 reports in Great Britain (as well as in other areas).

In an effort to remedy this situation, in co-operation with Dr. Vallée, a catalogue of Type 1 reports in the British Isles is being prepared on the lines of the "Magonia" and "Iberian" catalogues. Already a sample of over 200 such cases has been obtained, largely from published ufological sources. The total number of such reports may be larger, and the purpose of this letter is to appeal to readers to supply **full details** of all such reports in personal or society files, results of investigations and re-investigations of reports, details of new reports as they arrive, and details of reports published in newspapers, journals prior to 1969 other than FSR, or low distribution journals. Respondents may be assured that all such cases will be gratefully received.

For the purposes of the catalogue Type 1 reports are, provisionally, designated as:

- Reports involving objects on the ground with or without "occupants";
- Reports involving objects observed at an altitude of 100ft. (30m.) or less, or described as being at treetop or rooftop height;
- Reports involving objects at higher altitude where "occupants" have been observed;
- All reports of "occupants", "humanoids", "aliens", "spacemen" etc., whether involving objects or not;
- Reports of objects entering or leaving bodies of water in a controlled manner.

In view of research by Mr. Alan Sharp, it has been decided not to include reports of ground effects not involving reports of objects.

Reports should, if possible, give exact date, time, location and witness's name. Requests for anonymity will be honoured in published reports. It is hoped that ufologists will publish details of cases they investigate in *Flying Saucer Review* and *FSR Case Histories*.

The reason why I was not "forthcoming" about the classification of UFO books in libraries,* is simply that I found in my first draft letter it took up too much space and was very boring. Basically books of the Von Däniken type can be classified either

as historical mysteries, or as religious phenomena interpreted as extra-terrestrial visitation. The problems of classification and whether works should be classified by subject or discipline has been the subject of controversy among classifiers for a hundred years. Yours faithfully,

Peter Rogerson,
8 Braddon Avenue, Urmston,
Manchester, M31 1UE.
May 21, 1972.

* This is a reference to a letter from the correspondent which appeared in *FSR*, Vol. 17, No. 00—EDITOR.

Computing distances of UFOs observed

Dear Editor,—Recently I developed a computer programme to find the distance of a UFO from the observer during a sighting. I had heard that the November/December 1969 issue of *FSR* had an article containing a sketch and some calculations made of a sighting, so, in order to test my programme, I borrowed that issue from a friend.

The article was entitled "Flying Saucer over Cluj, Romania" and was written by Florin Gheorghita. It concerned three photographs that had been taken of an object which the witness estimated to be 1,000 to 1,200 metres distant and 30 metres in diameter. Using the photos and the sighter's estimation of distance the author calculated that the object had a diameter of between 32 and 38 metres.

The article did not contain the specific information that I needed so I could not use it. I did notice, however, that the author's calculations were incorrect so I wrote another programme to find the actual values. I found that if the distance of the object was between 1,000 and 1,200 metres then its diameter was between 42 and 50 metres.

While it is true that this mistake does not change any aspects of the case, two points need to be made: (1) For a sceptic this is lethal ammunition and (2) Should UFO research ever get beyond the ridiculous stage it is quite probable that mistakes such as this could affect the analysis of a UFO report.

I will be happy to analyse any UFO report that someone may have for its mathematical reliability or to supply any missing distance or dimension measurement. Anyone can reach me at the address given below.

Yours sincerely,
David Keilbarth,
2843 Guilford Land, Oklahoma City,
Oklahoma 73120, USA.
April 30, 1972.

About a lightning calculator

Dear Sir,—I am writing this because M. Aimé Michel requested further information on lightning calculators. The following article is an excellent example, conducted by an authority in this field, and I hope M. Michel finds it of some use:

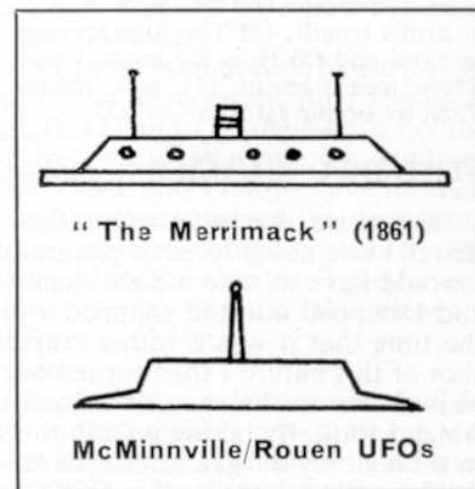
I. Hunter: "An Exceptional Talent for Calculative Thinking." *British Journal of Psychology*, 1962, Vol. 53, No. 3, pp. 243-258.

It concerns Professor Alexander Aitkin, F.R.S.

Yours truly,
I. Jones,
67 Stephens Road, Walmley,
Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

Comparison

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Clifford's letter in the January/February 1972 issue concerning the McMinnville/Rouen UFOs I would like to point out the sighting of a



similar object over Michigan in 1904 (*Mysteries of the Skies*, by Lore and Deneault, p. 93).

According to the 1st witness "It had a sort of thick mast sticking up from the centre . . ." And the 2nd witness said "Its shape reminded me of pictures of the Confederate gunboat

Merrimac" (Fig. 1).

Figure 1:

The Merrimack (1861)

Figure 2:

McMinnville/Rouen UFO

Now if Merrimack's funnel is substituted for the "Thick Mast" described, the resemblance of the 1904 UFO with those seen at McMinnville and Rouen is remarkable.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. Woloniecki,
Washington Street,
Bradford, Yorkshire.